

Amendments To the Abstract:

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 20 line 1, as follows:

--ABSTRACT--

In the English translation document, please add the paragraph at page 20 line 1, after the newly added ABSTRACT section heading, as follows:

Disclosed is a method for providing absence information in a telecommunication system comprising several subscribers, wherein the absence information is produced and captured by means of a first subscriber on a first terminal which is associated with said subscriber. The presence information is then transmitted to a switching node and stored therein. The switching node transmits the absence information to a second terminal which is associated with a second subscriber such that the absence information is continuously available. The known performance characteristics absence text and station guarding of a telecommunication system are used in order to produce and store absence information.